

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's
EXCITER



President's Corner

Column by Karl Bowman W4CHX,
RARS President

RARS EVENTS:

- The RARS General Membership meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 PM on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 PM or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Even though RARSfest is just a few days away, volunteers are still needed on Friday and Saturday, April 6 and 7. A quick and easy way to sign-up to help can be found on the RARSfest webpage at www.rars.org. Or contact John AI4RT at ai4rt@hotmail.com to volunteer.

Once again, there are many public service events this spring. So visit the RARS website or contact John AI4RT to volunteer for these events. ARRL Field Day 2012 will be here in less than 90 days! It will be held over the weekend of June 22-24. Bob W4TTX and the band captains are continuing work on their plans for another successful Field Day, and David KF4VXJ has been successful in securing donations to support the event. As always, volunteers are still needed. Please contact Bob W4TTX or David KF4VXJ if you can provide assistance with Field Day.

The next RARS meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 3. The program will be "Time and Frequency", presented by Justin Pinnix AJ4MJ. Please don't forget to attend – it will be great to see you!

Next RARS Meeting: April 3

7:30 PM: "Time and Frequency"
by Justin Pinnix AJ4MJ.

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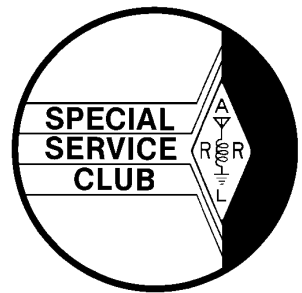


The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).



The Exciter

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcome articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

Editor: Courtney Enzor KI4HOS (editor@rars.org)

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Location: First Alliance Church

4400 Buffaloe Road

Raleigh, NC

Time: People begin arriving at 7 PM. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 PM.

RARS Monthly Dinner

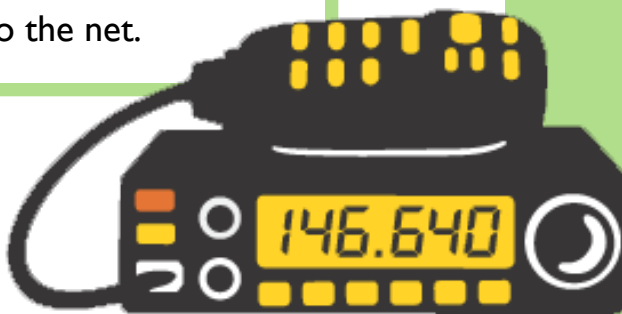
Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 & 443.625 (88.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 PM on the 146.640. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS member to the net.



VE TESTING

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

April Birthdays

Roger	KB4FEU	4/2
Ray	K2HYD	4/2
Bob	W4TTX	4/3
Mike	KG4LYS	4/4
Phillip	W4ABF	4/5
Henry	WB2AGA	4/8
Lawrence Carringer		4/9
Dennis	NC4DK	4/10
Sam	KI4SED	4/11
Bob	K2QJ	4/11
Ian	N0IAN	4/13
Ron	WE4RON	4/13
Cindy	KB8LVU	4/15
Phillip	KG4IVD	4/16
Dick	KB1HIW	4/17
Robert	KG4BDX	4/18
Kirk	KI4RK	4/19
John	W4WWD	4/20
Glen	K1GW	4/22
Joanne	KK4ANZ	4/23
Pete	KI4LWQ	4/23
Neal	N4HAF	4/23
Richard	KJ4TTY	4/24
Ben	KJ4DEM	4/24
Dave	KG4OPZ	4/24
Don	WA4AVU	4/26
Jim	N0YAO	4/26
TC	KJ4LKF	4/27
Charles	WA4OSS	4/27
Joe	KT4JOE	4/27

New RARS Members

John Booth, Jr	WB4DDK
Alan Nash, Jr	KK4HUX
Mike Paisley	KK4HNN
Ken Rudder	WA4JJW
John Peterson	NC4JP

Upcoming Hamfests

- 4/7 RARSFest (ARRL NC State Convention)
Raleigh, NC
<http://rars.org/hamfest>
- 4/14 Mobile Hamfest
Mobile, AL
<http://w4iax.net/hamfest.htm>
- 4/21 Catawba Valley Hamfest
Morganton, NC
<http://www.cvhamfest.com/>
- 4/29 Hampton Roads Springfest
Chesapeake, VA
<http://www.hrspringfest.com/>
- 5/5 Upstate Hamfest (SC Section Convention)
Spartanburg, SC
<http://www.upstatehamfest.org/>
- 5/12 Rockingham CO ARC Swapfest
Reidsville, NC
<http://www.rcarc.com/swap12.pdf>

February 2012

RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 460	Special Interest Nets:
Traffic: 37/29	Checkins: 105
Minutes: 510	Minutes: 410
Sessions: 29	Sessions: 9

Thanks to ALL of You!

Gratitude by Chuck K4HF and Mary Jo K4MJL Littlewood

Mary Jo K4MJL and I thank each of you for bestowing on us at the March 2012 Annual RARS Awards Meeting "Special Life Membership" in the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. Having been RARS Members almost since RARS started, we feel there is not a better Amateur Radio Club than RARS to contribute one's time and talents to support our great hobby and the ham community. As others do we work to be good ambassadors for RARS, and enjoy being on the RARS team!

Bubota

Article by Marty Young W4MY

I've just returned from an exciting and fun expedition at Harkers Island, NC, participating in the NC QSO Party. Harkers is a little island fishing village just on the mainland side of North Carolina across from the Cape Lookout lighthouse. The weather was beautiful, people were friendly, and the QSOs just kept coming.

As an avid radio sport enthusiast it got me thinking what it would take to get more hams interested in contesting. Surely adding these other intrinsic benefits like fine food, accommodations, and beach weather would be a draw to the sport. Looking across the sound at the Cape Lookout lighthouse, it dawned on me. We have Lighthouses on the Air (LOTW) where folks collect lighthouse designations for awards and contests, Islands on the Air (IOTA) collecting islands worked, why not have a new contest? Bed and Breakfasts on the AIR (BBOTA)?

Yea, that's the ticket! Hams all around the world could set up shop in early April at a B&B and work each other Field Day fashion, except in great style. I'm not only proposing a new contest, I'd like to put it up before the general membership that RARS sponsor such an event. I propose we designate Marc Sullivan W4MPS a fine upstanding member of RARS, to be our consultant as he has extensive experience of setting up a ham radio station at a B&B.

Of course, we need to pronounce the acronym for this new contest accurately just like we do IOTA (eye-o-tu). It is called BBOTA (bu-boe-tu).

Here is the contest as I see it:

Bed and Breakfasts on the Air (BBOTA)

OBJECT: Stations work as many Bed and Breakfast expeditions stations as you can. You may work B&Bs once per each band/mode combination for QSO points.

CONTEST PERIOD: The first full day in April starting at 0500 UTC and going for 24 hours. B&Bs are required to take a full 90 minute break during local morning time to fulfill the requirement to have a leisurely breakfast (see below). Since this will stagger during different times world wide, there should always be B&B stations on the air to work.

EXCHANGE: Non-B&Bs Callsign, QTH (State, Canadian province or DXCC country)
B&Bs Callsign, Name (of the B&B), Year that George Washington (or other famous dignitary) slept there, and QTH (State, Canadian province or DXCC country) Signal report is optional as we all know "59" means nothing during a contest.

SUGGESTED FREQS:: CW - 3.500, 7.000, 14.000, 21.000, 28.000, 28.140; PHONE - 3.999, 7.299, 14.349, 21.449, 29.699. ALL CW CONTACTS MUST TAKE PLACE IN THE CW PORTION OF EACH BAND! 100 Watt power limit.

SCORING: QSOS only count working a B&B. No credit between two non B&Bs. 2 points for each Phone QSO, 3 points for each CW QSO,. Multipliers - B&B stations multiply QSO points by total thread count of their bed sheets. Out-of-state stations multiply QSO points by total number of different B&Bs worked across all bands and modes. Subtract a one point penalty per B&B if you worked them before 7am local (their time). What in the world were they doing up that early?

BONUS POINTS Non B&Bs: 50 points each for working B&Bs on the National Register of Historic Places. The B&B station should so state during the QSO if this is the case. B&Bs: 50 points if Tea is served in a china cup with saucer, and 50 points if it was pored into your cup by a server or someone other than in your party. **150 POINTS FOR BOTH!** Note, bonus points should be added to your score **AFTER** the multiplier is applied.

AWARD CATEGORIES - Plaques will be awarded for first place in the following categories:

B&B Expedition/mixed mode

B&B Expedition/mixed mode QRP (5 watts or less)

B&B Expedition/mixed mode Club (At least two operators using A VALID FCC ISSUED CLUB CALL. Club competition must have only one transmitted signal at a time, and be on their best behavior at the B&B.)

SINGLE OP/Non B&B/CW (Single operator using CW Only)

SINGLE OP/Non B&B/SSB (Single Operator using SSB Only)

SINGLE OP/Non B&B/Mixed QRP (5 watts or less)

MOST B&Bs – The station (both B&Bs and non) with the most B&Bs contacted will be awarded a special award.

DEFINATION OF BED AND BREAKFAST EXPEDITION STATION is an operation (of one or more operators) from a temporary B&B location using temporary antennas installed for the contest period, using temporary antenna supports (natural supports like trees permitted). B&Bs must be an established overnight accommodation and designated as such. You are required to eat the breakfast served in the morning and to clean your plate. Pictures of the meal participants as well as the clean plate may be submitted with your score in the soapbox section. B&B competition must have only one transmitted signal at a time, no band change limit.

LOGS: EMAIL Logs/summary sheets and soapbox to spoof@tic.org by April 1, 2012. Mailed logs/summary sheets must be postmarked by April 1, 2012. Entry MUST include full log and the official B&B summary sheet stating call, category, claimed score with bonuses. Also include the glossy brochure of your fine accommodation with the host's signature and date. Logs should be in any standard logger format, including Cabrillo.

Please let me know how you like the idea. E-mail your feedback to me directly at w4my@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Ham Radio Class

Announcement by Virginia Enzor NC4VA, RARS Education Director

Have you ever had an interest in ham radio? Want to talk to folks around the world? Want to assist with communications during an emergency? Want to help with public service events? Like to talk and make new friends? Then ham radio may be for you!

A class to prepare interested folks for the **Technician Class License** (entry level) will be held this spring, **taught by an instructor from the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society (RARS)** hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This 2-part class will prepare participants for the FCC exam. The exam will be administered at the end of the last class session. **The class is open to the public.** Details follow:

Dates: Saturdays
April 14, 2012, 8am – 12:30pm
April 28, 2012, 8am – 12:00 pm; Exam at 1:00pm

Location: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
5060 Six Forks Rd
Raleigh, NC 27609

Instructor: Mike Murphy WA4BPJ, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

Cost: \$30.00 for the class (includes manual) and \$15.00 for the exam fee; checks should be made out to RARS upon receipt of the manual. The exam fee will be paid at exam time.

All participation is by pre-registration. **To register for this class, please contact RARS Education Director Virginia Enzor NC4VA at nc4va@nc.rr.com or (919) 469-8555 by Wednesday, April 11.** She will be happy to answer any questions you may have about the class, licensing, or the exam.



Class space is limited, so register early!

Minutes of the February 21, 2012 RARS Board Meeting

Present: Jack N6UYB, CJ KJ4OBQ, Chuck W3WZN, Don WA4AVU, Bob W4TTX, Virginia NC4VA, John AI4RT, Greg KE4PAX, Ken KI4OTO, Chuck K4HF, Karl W4CHX

Guests: Murray K4MHM, Dave KF4VXJ

Apologies and/or emailed reports: Bob KI4YXM


1. Call to order (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.
2. Lifetime membership for Chuck K4HF and Mary Jo K4MJL (Selene KG4RMT): On behalf of Selene KG4RMT and Hank K4HM, Karl W4CHX introduced their request for Lifetime Membership (Special Life Member status) for Chuck Littlewood K4HF and Mary Jo Littlewood K4MJL.

For Chuck K4HF, this recommendation was based on the following accolades: he has been involved in the management of every RARSfest that has been held (more than 40 years); he has been an Elmer to many hams and helped families disperse the estates of Silent Key hams; he is a great ambassador for RARS and amateur radio; he has been a club member for more than 40 years; and, he is always there, always available, always helpful!

For Mary Jo K4MJL, this recommendation was based on the following accolades: she has been the chair of the social dinner at RARSfest for many years; she has been a member of the RARS Crystals; she supports Chuck K4HF during his service to RARS; and, she is a great ambassador for RARS and amateur radio, especially by greeting visitors and members to the monthly membership meetings and to the RARSfest social dinner.

A motion was made by CJ KJ4OBQ and seconded by Jack N6UYB that the RARS Board recommend to the RARS membership that Lifetime Membership (Special Life Member status) in RARS should be awarded to Chuck Littlewood K4HF and Mary Jo Littlewood K4MJL. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of minutes (Bob KI4YXM): The revised Minutes of the January 17, 2012 meeting of the RARS Board were distributed and reviewed by the Board. After discussion, a motion was made by Jack N6UYB and seconded by Virginia NC4VA to approve the Minutes. The Minutes were approved.

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4. Vice President's report (CJ KJ4OBQ): It was reported that the upcoming presentation topics would be: awards and RARSfest (Karl W4CHX and John AI4RT; March); time and frequency (Justin AJ4MJ; April); to be arranged (May); and, Field Day (Bob W4TTX and others; June). Other presentation topics and possible speakers were discussed.

CJ KJ4OBQ is working with Virginia NC4VA on submitting nominations for the ARRL Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award.

Following discussion, it was decided there would no change in the meeting date for the general membership meeting in July. The meeting will be held on July 3, 2012.

5. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): Greg KE4PAX reported that there are 301 members in RARS; fifty-one individuals have not renewed from 2011. Any RARS member can obtain further budget information by contacting Greg KE4PAX or Karl W4CHX.
6. Secretary's report (Bob KI4YXM): No report.
7. Committee reports:
 - a. Public Service Director (John AI4RT): John AI4RT reviewed the upcoming public service events and encouraged individuals to volunteer for these events.
 - b. Public Information Officer (Chuck W3WZN): Chuck W3WZN asked everyone to keep him "in the loop" regarding RARS activities that may need publicizing.
 - c. Education Director (Virginia NC4VA): Virginia NC4VA reported that there will be a Technician license class in April. With regard to a General licensing class, the teaching material to support that class needs to be updated.
 - d. Field Day Chair (Bob W4TTX): Bob W4TTX reported that he will be meeting with the band captains next month regarding the plans for Field Day.
 - e. FM Repeater Chair (Karl W4CHX): Karl W4CHX has arranged for a combination lock to be placed on the repeater cabinet at the RTP tower site, which will allow access for installation of the 145.13 repeater. Cliff W4FT and Jack N6UYB will be project leaders for the building repair/replacement project at the Bayleaf and RTP sites, respectively.

- f. RARSfest Chair (John AI4RT): John AI4RT reported that the next RARSfest planning meeting will be held on February 27th; he will be making a presentation on RARSfest at the next general membership meeting; and, the RARSfest appreciation picnic will be held on April 21st at Lake Crabtree Park.
- g. Exciter Chair (Courtney KI4HOS): No report.
- h. Hospitality Chair (Mary Jo K4MJL): No report.
- i. Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA): No report.
- j. ARRL Liaison (Chuck K4HF): No report.
- k. At-Large Director (Don WA4AVU): No report.
- l. At-Large Director (Ken KI4OTO): Ken KI4OTO provided an update on his proposed RARS award program. Two individuals have volunteered to assist him; a third individual is needed. Thereafter, planning meetings will be scheduled.
- m. At-Large Director (Jack N6UYB): Jack N6UYB inquired about the possibility of re-activating a RARS-owned 220 MHz repeater. After discussion, Karl W4CHX indicated that this was a low priority relative to other needs for the RARS repeater system.
- n. W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO): No report.
- o. RARSVE Coordinators (Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK): No report.
- p. RARS Webmaster (Hank K4HM): No report.

8. Old business:

- a. RARS White Paper (Karl W4CHX): Karl W4CHX informed the Board that several words in the RARS White Paper needed to be changed to avoid any misinterpretation of our public service activities. After discussion, the Board reached favorable consensus regarding the requested word changes.

- b. RARS New Ham Invitation Letter (CJ KJ4OBQ): CJ KJ4OBQ reported that the letter is finalized and “ready to go”. The letter was sent to OCRA for their use. For the time being, this RARS initiative was tabled.
- c. New award for RARS members (Ken KI4OTO): See At-Large Director report from Ken KI4OTO.
- d. Insurance coverage for RARS (Greg KE4PAX): Greg KE4PAX discussed the insurance coverage for RARS. A motion was made and seconded to move our insurance coverage to the new agency recommended by ARRL; to drop the automobile coverage; to pick up RARS equipment coverage; and, to make these changes when the current policy expires. A list of RARS-owned equipment needs to be made. The motion passed.

9. New business:

- a. RARS Awards (Chuck K4HF): Chuck K4HF reported that input has been received, the list of award recipients has been made, and a plaque and certificates are being produced. The RARS Awards ceremony will be held on March 6th during the general membership meeting.
- b. ARRL licensing manuals for public libraries (Murray K4MHM): Murray K4MHM described his proposal for placing ARRL licensing manuals in the Wake County Public Libraries. After discussion, it was proposed that Murray K4MHM check with the library acquisitions manager regarding acceptance of the licensing manuals and how they would be shared between the branch libraries; RARS would purchase 6 manuals for distribution; the information recorded on the donor’s bookplate would include RARS’ name and website address; and, that Murray K4MHM would alert other clubs in the Triangle-area about this initiative and invite them to participate. Jack N6UYB made a motion that the proposal be approved by the Board; the motion was seconded by Chuck W3WZN. The proposal was approved.

10. Any other business: None

11. Board member’s comments: None.

12. Adjournment (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 PM.

Minutes of the March 6, 2012 RARS General Meeting

1. Call to order (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was called to order by Karl W4CHX at 7:35 PM.
2. Frank Lynch, W4FAL (SK) and Melvin Harrod K4FEP (SK): A moment of silence was observed for these individuals that recently passed away.
3. Approval of Minutes (Karl W4CHX): The Minutes of the RARS General Membership meetings on January 3, 2012 and February 7, 2012 were approved, with one change: the date of the January meeting was 1/3/2012.
4. Vice President's report (CJ KJ4OBQ): Topic at the next meeting will be, "Time and Frequency", which will be presented by Justin Pinnix, AJ4MJ.
5. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): Current membership is 303. If any RARS member has any questions, please contact Greg, KE4PAX or Karl, W4CHX for further information.
6. Announcements (Karl W4CHX):
 - a. RARS Dinner: second Tuesday, (3/13/12), 6:30 PM, Golden Corral, 6129 Glenwood Avenue (Hwy 70), monitor the 146.64 repeater on Tuesday (3/13) for any update information.
 - b. RARS Board Meeting: third Tuesday (3/20/12), 7:00 PM, Triangle Radio Reading Service, 211 E. Six Forks Road, Suite 103; any RARS member is welcome to attend. For more information, contact any RARS officer.
 - c. After meeting gathering: Applebee's, Six Forks and Wake Forest Roads (by the Costco).
 - d. Upcoming hamfests and meetings (local): 2012 Charlotte Hamfest, Concord, NC (3/10-11); and, RARSfest 2012, Raleigh, NC (4/7). Please see the Exciter or the ARRL website for information on other hamfests.

Ken KI4OTO announced that the Carolinas Chapter of the Antique Wireless Association will meet on March 22-24, 2012 in Charlotte, NC.

- a. Guests: Grady Parker AI4YA was introduced.

7. Drawing: The winners were Ken WA4JJW and Ken KI4OTO.

8. Reports from RARS Board members and others:

- a. Technician licensing class (Virginia NC4VA): Virginia NC4VA announced that a Technician licensing class will be held on April 14th and 28th at the Church of the Latter Day Saints on Six Forks Road, Raleigh. The costs for the course and examination are \$30.00 and \$15.00, respectively. In addition, Virginia NC4VA announced that basic spotter training in SKYWARN starts on tonight's net and continues next week.
- b. ARRL Field Day 2012 (Bob W4TTX): Bob W4TTX reported on the Field Day preparations, which will be held on June 22-24, 2012. Bob W4TTX reminded everyone that Field Day is the Woodstock of Ham Radio.
- c. Public service events (John AI4RT): John AI4RT reviewed the public service opportunities. The Special Olympics needs help on June 1-3, 2012.

9. Special Life Membership for Chuck K4HF and Mary Jo K4MJL: At the RARS Board meeting on February 21, 2012, Selene KG4RMT and Hank K4HM introduced their request for lifetime membership for Chuck Littlewood K4HF and Mary Jo Littlewood K4MJL. The reasons for these recommendations were discussed. A motion was made by CJ KJ4OBQ and seconded by Jack N6UYB that the RARS Board recommend to the RARS membership that Special Life Member status in RARS should be awarded to Chuck Littlewood K4HF and Mary Jo Littlewood K4MJL. The motion passed unanimously.

Karl W4CHX read the following resolutions:

Whereas, Chuck Littlewood, K4HF has been involved in the management of every RARSfest that has been held (more than 40 years);
Whereas, he has been an Elmer to many hams and helped families disperse the estates of Silent Key hams;
Whereas, he is a great ambassador for RARS and amateur radio;
Whereas, he has been a club member for more than 40 years; and,
Whereas, he is always there, always available, always helpful!
Therefore, let it be resolved that the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society awards Special Life Member status to Chuck Littlewood K4HF on this day, March 6, 2012.

Whereas Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL has been the chair of the social dinner at RARSfest for many years;
Whereas she has been a member of the RARS Crystals;
Whereas she supports her husband, Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, during his service to RARS; and,
Whereas she is a great ambassador for RARS and amateur radio, especially by greeting visitors and members to the monthly membership meetings and to the RARSfest social dinner.
Therefore, let it be resolved that the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society awards Special Life Member status to Mary Jo Littlewood K4MJL on this day, March 6, 2012

Karl W4CHX asked the full members in attendance to vote upon these recommendations from the RARS Board. A motion was made and seconded to award Special Life Member status to Chuck Littlewood, K4HF and Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL. The motion passed unanimously.

Thereafter, Special Life Member status was awarded to Chuck Littlewood, K4HF and Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL; and, they were given plaques.

10. Program: RARS Awards (Karl W4CHX) and Update on RARSfest (John A14RT): Karl W4CHX reminded everyone that RARS is celebrating its 43rd birthday. Next, Karl W4CHX presented RARS Awards to the following individuals:

Plaque:

Charles Swindell, WB4DCM in appreciation as RARS Secretary, 2008-2011.

Certificates:

Gary Pearce, KN4AQ in appreciation as the RARS Public Information Officer, 2002-2011.

Gary Pearce, KN4AQ in appreciation as the RARS FM Repeater Committee Chairman, 2005-2011.

Courtney Enzor, K14HOS in appreciation as a RARS Exciter Editor, 2007-2011.

Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL in appreciation as the Annual RARSfest Supper Hostess, 2001-2011.

C.J. Orr, KJ4OBQ for her effort in bringing the RARSfest RARS Club Table to a new level of efficiency.

Bob Starkenburg, W4TTX for the outstanding job leading RARS to a 1st Place Finish in Class 9A for the 2011 ARRL Field Day.

Bill and Joanne Mars, AK4BL / KK4ANZ for the successful operation of the 2011 RARSfest Youth Lounge.

Randy Bittle, KE4PNT for his long term Net Control Duties on the RARS Net and others.

Justin Pinnix, AJ4MJ for his efforts in helping make the Project Table at RARSfest a success.

Virginia Enzor, NC4VA for her tireless effort as a Good Will Ambassador for RARS and for overseeing the Central Carolina Skywarn Program.

Mark Womack, AJ4KZ for his effort in getting RARS a possible IBM Grant

Charles Durst, NC4CD for his help in getting the RARS Repeaters situated in the Triangle Area.

Austin Page, AJ4VK for his recent help on the RARS repeater projects.

Debora Bray, KI4VVE for promoting Ham Radio in Powell Elementary School and the Wake County School System.

Larry Young, K4LXV in appreciation for his contributions to the Annual RARSfest supper for several years.

Bill McDowell, K4CIA for his work as ARRL and CQ QSL Manager and QSL Card Checker for several years at RARSfest and in our community.

Bill Morine, N2COP in appreciation for his great job as ARRL NC Section Manager, 2010-2011.

Karl W4CHX asked all to stand and be recognized for assisting in public service events in 2011; for having been a net control station or for completing traffic training at any time; and, for assisting on the RARS or other volunteer examination teams at any time.

The second portion of the program was an update on RARSfest presented by John AI4RT and his committee members. RARSfest is the 3rd largest hamfest in NC and its proceeds go into the RARS general funds for normal club activities. John AI4RT reviewed the different teams and the jobs that are necessary to pull the event together.

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM by Karl W4CHX

Local Amateur Radio Nets

Join us every evening at 8 PM on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday @ 9:15 PM on the 146.880 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 PM on the 146.880. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The Wake County ARES Net

meets Thursdays at 8:30 PM on the 146.640 repeater. We provide discussion training for the implementation and provision of emergency communications for our served agencies, such as the American

Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. For more information, check out www.wakeares.org.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 PM.

This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

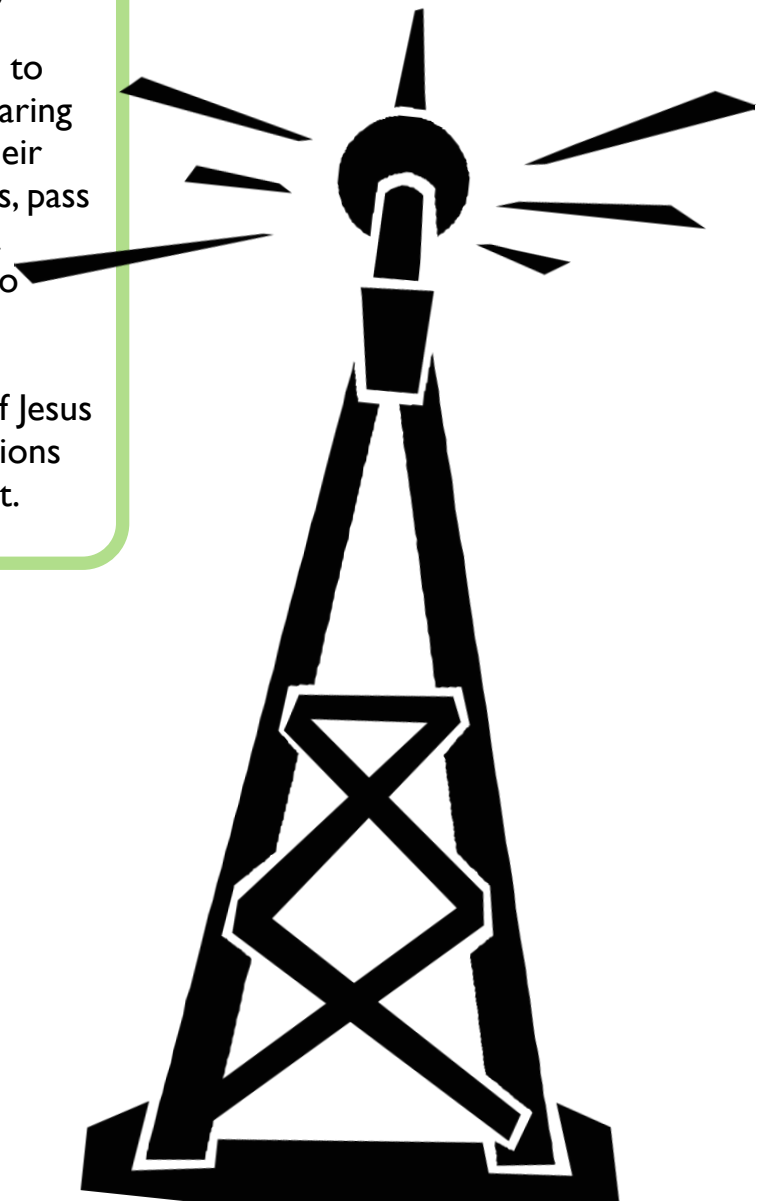
Local Amateur Radio Nets

The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 at 8:30 PM.

Apex Emergency Response Communications Net

This net meets weekly each Sunday evening @ 9 PM on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.



RARS Classifieds

Looking to add a new radio to your shack? Have an antenna for sale? Browse the RARS classifieds for new and used radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php>.

RARS members are welcome to post notices about equipment they are selling. Posts last for 30 days and are editable at any time.

Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

EXCITER

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
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